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Agenda items 20 (b) and 116 (c)
STRENGTHENING OF THE COORDINATION OF HUMANITARIAN AND DISASTER RELIEF ASSISTANCE OF THE UNITED NATIONS, INCLUDING SPECIAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE: SPECIAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO INDIVIDUAL COUNTRIES OR REGIONS
HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS: HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATIONS AND REPORTS OF SPECIAL RAPPORTEURS AND REPRESENTATIVES

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-fourth year

Letter dated 2 November 1999 from the Permanent Representative of Finland to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to bring to your attention the statement by the Presidency of the European Union on behalf of the European Union on the extension of the ceasefire in the Sudan issued on 21 October 1999 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would arrange for the text of this letter and its annex to be circulated as a document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Marjatta RASI
Permanent Representative
of Finland to the
United Nations

Annex

[Original: English and French]

Statement on the extension of the ceasefire in the Sudan issued on 21 October 1999 by the Presidency of the European Union on behalf of the European Union

The European Union welcomes the decision made by the Sudanese Government as well as the Sudan People's Liberation Army to extend the ceasefire in the southern Sudan for a further three months. The European Union considers this an important measure in enhancing and securing the supply of humanitarian aid in the war-affected areas as well as a positive step towards an atmosphere conducive to achieving a lasting peace.

The European Union reiterates its appeal to both parties to proceed to a permanent and comprehensive humanitarian ceasefire and to a prompt resumption of the peace negotiations in Nairobi, as decided in the last round of talks within the Intergovernmental Authority on Development peace process.

The Central and Eastern European countries associated with the European Union, the associated countries Cyprus and Malta, and the European Free Trade Association countries members of the European Economic Area align themselves with the present statement.